

## Lost Coast Headlands – Fleener Creek Trail

### Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan *California State Coastal Conservancy*

#### **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

This Mitigation Monitoring Plan has been developed for the Mitigated Negative Declaration adopted by the Coastal Conservancy for the Lost Coast Headlands – Fleener Creek Trail project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Section 15097 of the Guidelines for CEQA requires a program for mitigation monitoring or reporting when a public agency adopts a mitigated negative declaration in conjunction with approving a project. The purpose of the Mitigation Monitoring Plan is to ensure that mitigation measures discussed in the Environmental Assessment which was prepared under the National Environmental Policy Act (“NEPA”) by the Bureau of Land Management (“the BLM”) for avoiding potential impacts are implemented. The mitigation measures for this project address potential impacts to cultural resources and pedestrian safety from cattle grazing.

#### **Mitigation Measures**

##### Cultural Resources

Although database and literature review indicated that several ethnographic Wiyot Indian camps had been located along the beach/creek interfaces in the area, a 2001 BLM field-review of the project site found no evidence of prehistoric, ethnographic, and/or historic properties in the immediate project area. The BLM also reviewed the North Coast Information Center’s archaeological data base and relevant literature, including literature reviews and field surveys carried out in 2002 and 2003 for unrelated projects encompassing this project area. No evidence of prehistoric, ethnographic, and/or historic properties was found. Nonetheless there is potential for a buried prehistoric site and/or human remains to be found during construction.

*Mitigation measure:* Prior to any surface disturbing activities associated with trail construction, the BLM will conduct a site-specific cultural survey in the immediate location of the trail to identify any potential archaeological/cultural sites or artifacts.

If any cultural materials, sites, or properties should be discovered during the construction of the trail, a qualified archaeologist will evaluate the finds and appropriate protection measures consistent with the requirements of 14 California Code of Regulations §1504.5(f) will be taken, if necessary. In the event that any human remains are encountered or in the event that unassociated funerary objects, or grave goods are discovered, work in the immediate vicinity of the discovery, other than non-disturbing documentation, shall cease and BLM shall comply with applicable State laws (14

## Exhibit 6: Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

California Code of Regulations §15064.5(e), Health & Safety Code §75050.5, and Public Resources Code §5097.98), Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) as outlined at 43 CFR 10 and, Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) at 43 CFR 7.

### Public Safety

The Fleener Creek Trail will be located on and traverse through agricultural lands actively grazed under a lease. Although the cattle are grazed only during the spring and early summer for a period of approximately two months annually, and observations indicate the cattle tend to graze away from the trail location on flatter ground, there is the potential for interaction between hikers and cattle.

*Mitigation measure:* In the event that cattle begin using the trail, or come to close to hikers, the BLM will evaluate the need for installing fencing to separate the uses. The fencing could be installed on a temporary seasonal basis, or it could be installed permanently if over time the cattle continue to use the trail.

### **Reporting**

The State Coastal Conservancy is the lead state agent under CEQA and as such has developed this plan to accompany the EA prepared by BLM. As the landowner and manager, the BLM will monitor project implementation to ensure that mitigation measures are incorporated if needed, and will report to the Conservancy upon completion of project construction as to any measures taken during construction and thereafter, when, and if, mitigation measures become necessary.